

## Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7681

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PLEASE NOTIFY EUR/CE UPON RECEIPT

DEPARTMENT PASS USMISSION USBERLIN AND AMEMBASSY BERLIN

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GW, US, UR, UK, FR

SUBJECT: SOVIET DEMARCHE ON BERLIN PATROLS

REF: BONN 7090

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF  
AGREEMENT ON COMMON TEXT OF REPLY TO SOVIET PROTEST.  
TEXT OF PROPOSED US REPLY FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

A. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS STUDIED  
THE SOVIET STATEMENT OF 15 APRIL 1977 CONCERNING THE  
MATTER OF ENTRY INTO THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN BY  
ALLIED MILITARY VEHICLES.

B. THE SOVIET STATEMENT REFERS TO US MILITARY POLICE  
VEHICLES PERFORMING POLICY PATROLS IN THE EASTERN  
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SECTOR OF BERLIN. WHAT IS IN FACT AT ISSUE IS THAT  
FREE MOVEMENT OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL ON DUTY IN THE  
AREA OF BERLIN AS DEFINED IN THE QUADRIpartite WARTIME  
AND POSTWAR AGREEMENTS WHICH HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE SINCE  
1945. (BEGIN BRACKETS) THE SOVIET SIDE HAS  
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOVIET VEHICLES CARRY OUT DUTIES IN  
THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. THESE ACTIVITIES IN THE

WESTERN SECTORS CORRESPOND TO THE TOURS BY US  
FLAG VEHICLES IN THE EASTERN SECTOR AND ARE PART OF THE  
LONG-STANDING QUADRIpartite PRACTICE OF CONDUCTING  
TOURS IN THE RESPECTIVE SECTORS OF BERLIN.  
(END BRACKETS)

C. IN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1971,  
THE FOUR POWERS UNDERTOOK MUTUALLY TO RESPECT THEIR  
INDIVIDUAL AND JOINT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND  
CONFIRMED THAT THESE REMAINED UNCHANGED. THE FREEDOM  
OF MOVEMENT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE FOUR POWERS  
ON OR OFF DUTY THROUGHOUT BERLIN IS IN EXERCISE OF  
THOSE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND IS AN ELEMENT  
OF THE EXISTING SITUATION WHICH, UNDER THE TERMS OF  
THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT, CANNOT BE UNILATERALLY  
CHANGED.

D. THE QUADRIpartite DECLARATION OF 9 NOVEMBER 1972  
ALSO EXPLICITLY STATED THAT THE "RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES  
OF THE FOUR POWERS AND THE CORRESPONDING  
RELATED QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS, DECISIONS AND  
PRACTICES" WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED. AS INDICATED ABOVE,  
THE MOVEMENT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE FOUR  
POWERS THROUGHOUT BERLIN IS ONE OF THOSE PRACTICES.

E. FURTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
BELIEVES EFFORTS TOWARD SECURING PEACE IN BERLIN AND  
THROUGHOUT EUROPE WOULD BE DAMAGED IF ANY ONE OF THE  
FOUR POWERS WERE NOT TO RESPECT FULLY THE UNDERTAKINGS  
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CONFIRMED BY THEM IN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND  
THE QUADRIpartite DECLARATION, WHICH CONSTITUTE FUNDAMENTAL  
ELEMENTS OF DETENTE. ANY QUESTIONING OF THE  
LONG-STANDING QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS, DECISIONS AND  
PRACTICES IN BERLIN, INCLUDING TOURS BY MILITARY  
VEHICLES OF THE THREE POWERS IN THE EASTERN SECTOR  
OF BERLIN, WOULD THEREFORE HAVE DISTURBING EFFECTS ON  
THE OVERALL SITUATION WHICH WOULD BE IN THE INTEREST  
OF NEITHER SIDE. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
IS CONCERNED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE IS RISKING THE  
STABILITY ACHIEVED BY THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT  
DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS BY RAISING THIS CRITICAL  
POINT.

F. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES NOTES THE  
WISH OF THE SOVIET UNION TO CONTINUE CONTACTS ON  
BERLIN MATTERS ON A BUSINESS-LIKE BASIS, AND TO AVOID  
MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND DEBATES OVER QUESTIONS PERTAINING  
TO THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR POWERS

IN BERLIN. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES SHARES THAT WISH. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THEREFORE ACCEPTS THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET SIDE THAT THE SOVIET DEMARCHE SHOULD NOT BE MADE A MATTER OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION. BUT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES REMAINS DETERMINED TO ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL THE FOUR POWERS IN BERLIN ARE RESPECTED AND THAT OUTSIDE PARTIES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH THESE IMPORTANT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. IN PARTICULAR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS OF FREE MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT BERLIN AND IS THEREFORE UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE CONTENT OF THE SOVIET NOTE OF 15 APRIL.

END TEXT

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## Message Attributes

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